

About this publication	Description
Publication title	Projected Population of Scotland (2020-based, interim)
Description	Population projections for Scotland, by sex and single year of age.
Theme	Population and Migration
Topic	Projections
Format	Excel workbooks and PDF files. Also available as Open Data via statistics.gov.scot .
Data source(s)	<p>Base year population data is taken from the latest mid-year population estimates.</p> <p>Past trends in fertility, mortality, and migration are used for setting assumptions for the projections.</p>
Date that data is acquired	Ongoing.
Publication Release date	12 January 2022
Frequency	Biennial
Timeframe of data and timeliness	The most recent mid-year population estimate is used as the base year for the projections. National projections for Scotland are published on the same day as the national population projections for the UK produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).
Continuity of data	Data is available on the National Records of Scotland (NRS) website going back to the 2001-based national population projections, and limited data is available for 1994-based projections. On the ONS website historic data back to the 1971-based Scotland population projections is available. Data from each set of projections is based on a different base population.
Revisions statement	<p>Projections are not subject to scheduled revision.</p> <p>Revisions and corrections to previously published statistics are dealt with in accordance with the Scottish Government Statistician Group corporate policy statement on revisions and corrections - a copy of which is available on the Scottish Government website.</p>
Concepts and definitions	Further information on NRS Projected Population of Scotland can be found within the Population Projections section of the NRS website.
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	The primary purpose of the projections is to provide an estimate of the future population of Scotland as a common framework for use in national planning in a number of different fields including education and health. These projections are also used in fiscal forecasts and economic modelling.

Accuracy	<p>The assumptions about future patterns in fertility, mortality and migration are based on analysis of past trends. The final decisions on assumptions take into account the views of a range of groups who are consulted including a UK expert advisory panel and key users in Scotland.</p> <p>The migration estimates are subject to greater uncertainty as there is no comprehensive registration system in the UK.</p> <p>These projections are described as being 'interim' due to uncertainty in the mid-2020 base year, and in setting long-term demographic assumptions following the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. More information can be found in the Population Projections section of the NRS website.</p>
Completeness	<p>The published statistics are population projections at Scotland level, including components of change. There are no variant projections published.</p>
Comparability	<p>Population projections for Scotland are comparable with national projections for other countries within the UK. Some comparisons are made within the publication with other UK countries.</p> <p>There are also comparisons with European countries. Note that the Eurostat EUROPOP2019 projections may not be directly comparable due to methodological differences. The Eurostat projections are based on estimates of the population at 1 January 2019 to 1 January 2100 while the ONS projections are based on estimates of the population at 30 June 2020 to 30 June 2120. The methodologies in determining the underlying fertility, mortality and migration assumptions also differ.</p>
Accessibility	<p>It is the policy of the National Records of Scotland to make its website and products accessible according to published guidelines. More information is available in the Accessibility section of the NRS website.</p>
Coherence and clarity	<p>The statistics are provided in Excel and PDF format. They are also available as Open Data via statistics.gov.scot. They are designed to be consistent, and incorporate comparable historical data where appropriate.</p>
Value type and unit of measure	<p>Counts of persons, males and females by single year of age.</p>
Official Statistics designation	<p>These statistics were assessed by the UK Statistics Authority and are designated as National Statistics subject to meeting the requirements set out in the assessment report.</p>
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	<p>The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated this publication as National Statistics, in line with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The UKSA carried out a compliance check of the National Population Projections in April</p>

	2019, publishing a letter to confirm they should continue to be designated as National Statistics.
Help email	statisticscustomerservices@nrscotland.gov.uk
Date this form was published	12 January 2022